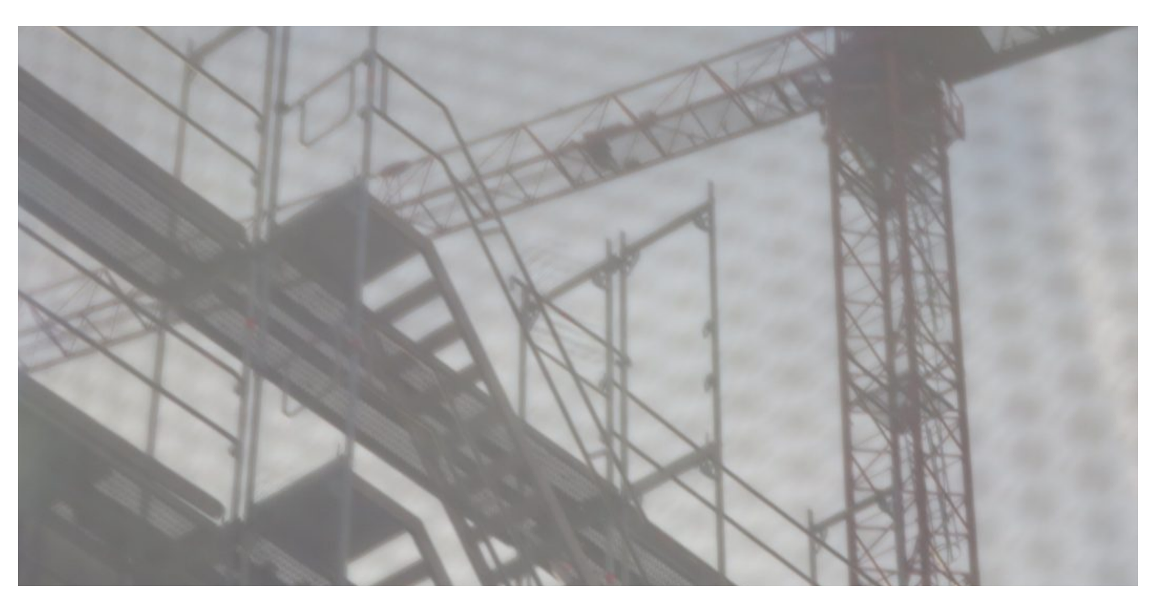






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BEYOND THE FRAGMENT: THE POSTOPERAIST RECEPTION OF MARX'S FRAGMENT ON MACHINES AND ITS RELEVANCE TODAY

LEXICON, MASHINES   CAPITAL, MACHINES, MARX, MARXISM, NEUE MARX LEKTÜRE, POSTOPERAISM, TECHNOLOGY

Abstract

This paper critiques the purposes to which Marx's Fragment on Machines is put in postoperaist thought. I suggest postoperaist readings wield influence on contemporary left thinking, via postcapitalism, accelerationism and 'Fully Automated Luxury Communism'. Changes in labour lead proponents to posit a crisis of measurability and an incipient communism. I use the New Reading of Marx and Open Marxism to dispute this. Based on an analysis of value as a social form undergirded in antagonistic social relations, I argue the Fragment's prognosis runs contrary to Marx's critique of political economy when the latter is taken as a critical theory of society. This theoretical claim bears implications for contemporary left political praxis.

Keywords : Marx, Negri, postoperismo, value, immaterial labour, capitalism, postcapitalism

full text here

Foto: Bernhard Weber

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